

Field Testing for 2017-18

Context

Field testing was separated from the operational assessment to reduce testing for as many students as possible, improve student stamina during the operational testing window, and increase student confidence and comfort with TNReady. The department reached this consensus decision after numerous conversations with educators and administrators.

2017-18 Field Testing

Tennessee districts and schools will participate in required field tests during the 2017-18 school year. Field tests will not be included in teacher, school, or district accountability results, and student performance will not be reported. However, field tests are very important for informing future test design, as the department uses feedback from field tests to develop future assessments using authentic student data. The following is a breakdown of field tests and times for the 2017-18 school year.

Required Field Tests	Time (min.)
ELA (Grades 3 and 4)	Up to 80
ELA Writing (Grades 5–11)	Up to 85
U.S. History Written Response	50

Optional Field Tests	Time (min.)
ELA (Grade 2)	Up to 75

These field tests will take place at a **separate time outside of the operational testing window**. The field testing window is **March 5–30, 2018**.

No school will have to field test two assessments for the same grade, such as English III and U.S. history. Additionally, as much as possible, individual schools will only field test every two years. In total, about 30 percent of Tennessee students, representing a demographic sample, will participate in a field test each year, and the group will rotate each year. In order to prevent the re-establishment of an all-student requirement and to maintain the integrity of the assessment process, districts are required to field test when they have been selected in the rotation. Selected districts will be notified by **Dec. 2017**.
